

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

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Commissioner



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January 25, 2023

Senator Anne Carney, Chair  
Representative Matt Moonen, Chair  
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary  
100 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0100

Re: LD 136 – An Act to Clarify Court Jurisdiction of Actions Involving Children  
Brought Under the Maine Uniform Probate Code

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and Members of the Joint Standing  
Committee on Judiciary:

This letter is to provide information regarding LD 136, An Act to Clarify Court Jurisdiction of Actions Involving Children Brought Under the Maine uniform Probate Code. The bill makes changes proposed by the Family Law Advisory Commission (FLAC) regarding jurisdiction of the District Court and probate courts.

OCFS understands that the Office of the Attorney General has submitted a letter outlining concerns and options for a proposed amendment to address those concerns. OCFS would urge the Committee to carefully consider the input of the Attorney General, as OCFS legal counsel, on the best statutory structure to allow OCFS to ensure the safety and stability of Maine children and families and would respectfully request that the Committee incorporate the Attorney General's suggestions into the language of the bill with an amendment.

We wanted you to be aware of the above information as you consider this bill going forward. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Todd A. Landry".

Dr. Todd A. Landry  
Director  
Office of Child and Family Services